

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-15 IO-13 ACDA-10 TRSE-00 /110 W

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R 081003Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1946

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SANA

USMISSION UN NEW YORK 1962

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PORG, ET, FT, SO

SUBJECT: EPMG ATTACKS GSDR RESERVATION ON UNGA DJIBOUTI
RESOLUTION

REF: USUN 5837

1. DECEMBER 7 ETHIOPIAN HERALD CARRIED LONG SUBSTANTIVE ARTICLE ON GSDR FAILURE TO "SUBSCRIBE TO MOST RECENT UN RESOLUTION ON FUTURE OF DJIBOUTI". WHILE GSDR DID IN FACT VOTE FOR RESOLUTION (REFTEL). LOCAL COVERAGE PLACED PRINCIPAL EMPHASIS ON FACT THAT IN STATEMENT FOLLOWING VOTE SOMALI SPOKESMAN RESERVED GSDR POSITION ON RESOLUTION SOLELY TO ACCEPTANCE OF DECOLONIZATION ASPECTS. ARTICLE LISTED ACTUAL VOTE AS 119 YES WITH 19 ABSTENTIONS, BUT CLEARLY LEFT IMPRESSION THAT SOMALIA VOTED NO WITHOUT SPECIFICALLY SAYING SO.

2. ARTICLE NOTED RESOLUTION, CO-SPONSORED BY ETHIOPIA ANAD NEARLY ALL OTHER AFRICAN STATES, APPROVED BY GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON DECEMBER 1. ARTICLE STATED WHILE SUPPORT OF ALMOST ALL
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STATES GRATIFYING, IT REGRETTABLE THAT GSDR, WHICH ALSO CO-

SPONSORED RESOLUTION AT COMMITTEE LEVEL, IN UNPRECEDENTED DEPARTURE FROM UN PRACTICE, RESERVED ITS POSITION AT LEVEL OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

AFTER QUOTING GSDR RESERVATION IN PART (NO MENTION MADE OF DISMANTLING MINEFIELDS AND BARBED WIRE REPORTED REFTEL), ARTICLE NOTED GSDR CONTINUES TO BE AMBIGUOUS ON SUBJECT OF RENUNCIATION OF CLAIMS TO TERRITORY OF TFAI.

3. ARTICLE ALSO SCORED GSDR FOR FAILURE TO RESPOND POSITIVELY TO ETHIOPIAN CHALLENGE AT UN TO RENOUNCE ALL CLAIMS TO TFAI.

ARTICLE CONCLUDED BY STATING THAT SOMALIA'S RELUCTANCE TO ACCEPT ETHIOPIA'S CHALLENGE AND ITS RESERVATION ON UNGA RESOLUTION, WHICH IT HAD EARLIER CO-SPONSORED, CLEARLY DEMONSTRATED SOMALIA'S BAD FAITH VIS-A-VIS OTHER CO-SPONSORS, AS WELL AS INDICATING DIRECTION OF SOMALIA'S INTENTIONS FOR DJIBOUTI.

4. COMMENT: STYLE AND FACTUAL DETAIL OF ARTICLE IN GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED PRESS INDICATES MAJOR INPUT BY MOFA.
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